Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

"Make up your mind to act decidedly and take the consequences. No good is ever done in this world by hesitation." ~ Thomas Henry

Friday, May 15, 2009

This week, Johnson Controls presented Commissioner Buss with the BELL (Building Efficiency, Local Leadership) award at Putnamville Correctional Facility for the IDOC's commitment to increasing energy efficiency.

Indianapolis Parole Supervisors and Agents participated in a 2 day ex-offender resource fair in collaboration with the Indianapolis Mayor's Office, Probation, and Re-entry Court staff. 422 parolees total visited the fair, where they learned about resources available and prepared to meet employers. Former Colts Coach Tony Dungy spoke at the fair.

As a community service project, the culinary arts department at Pendleton Juvenile is cutting 45 pound blocks of cheese into 16 pieces for the Second Harvest Food Bank in Muncie. The students are going to cut up 450 blocks of cheese in all.

Commissioner Buss presented Dolores Montgomery with the Governor's Distinguished Hoosier Award for her retirement after 30 years of service with the Department of Correction. She has served her entire career at the Indiana State Prison.

Westville Correctional recognized Correctional Employees' Week with a Flag Raising Ceremony. Superintendent Wilson spoke to a group of over 100 correctional staff who gathered for the event and expressed his gratitude for their dedication.

Volunteers from the Indianapolis Women's Community Re-entry Center recently assisted Gleaners Food Bank volunteers at multiple postal sites for the 17th annual NALC National Food Drive to "Stamp Out Hunger."

The Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation at Putnamville Correctional Facility recently approved its 3rd adoption. Speedo Cat was adopted by a student of St. Mary of the Woods College. 29 thoroughbreds are currently in the program.

Employee of the Year honorees at Wabash Valley Correctional include: Officer Jaime Wilson (Rookie); Robbie Marshall STG, Internal Affairs (Employee); Roxanna Henderson (Officer) and Sgt. Jason Irvine (Supervisor).

For Correctional Employees' Week, Central Office staff enjoyed a day of food and games at Victory Field in Indianapolis.

This week, South Bend Juvenile hosted an educational open house. The students were able to show their parents their classrooms, meet their teachers, and receive their report cards for the last grading period.

New Castle Correctional celebrated Correctional Employees' Week by having a staff recall and a pitch-in luncheon.

Miami Correctional named its Employees of the Year during its Correctional Employees' Week Recall Meeting. They are Robin Burton, Secretary, as Employee of the Year; Gene Cooper and Jim Dibble, Maintenance Supervisors, as co-Supervisors of the Year; and Officer Joseph Townsend as Correctional Officer of the Year.

21 students from Camp Summit designed ceramic tiles to be used in a mosaic that will be on permanent display at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts in Michigan City. The mosaic's theme is "Literacy in our Community."

Westville Correctional staff participated with area businesses in the LaPorte County YMCA Corporate Challenge.

Sgt. Chris Effner, a member of a Terre Haute area fugitive apprehension unit, is working with the Terre Haute Parole Office to apprehend delinquent offenders by having WTHI-TV profile 5 of the parole office's most wanted offenders.

Pendleton Juvenile held a Fresh Favorites Café for 72 eligible offenders. They had their choice of 2 track packs and additional sides. This was a great success for the offenders in the IN2WORK program to get hands-on experience.

CIF Superintendent Tom Hanlon recently presented \$107 to officers for the Special Olympics of Indiana.

Indianapolis Juvenile hosted a student talent show, where students performed music from a variety of genres. IJCF judges critiqued each act and offered motivational comments for each performer. All student performers were winners.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility recently donated 60 pints of milk to Lords Locker in Trafalgar, IN.

The law library at the Indiana State Prison was recently rededicated as the Dale Monroe Memorial Law Library.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional celebrated Correctional Employees' Week by having 2 golf scrambles, a motorcycle run, carnival style games, pizza party, and a cookout. Employee recognition and service awards were also given.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner